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TO LARRY EAGLEBURGER FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

TO: SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: JAN M. LODAL

SUBJECT: VERIFICATION PANEL MEETINGS -- MBFR AND SALT

MBFR WILL RESUME JANUARY 15 AND SALT SOON THEREAFTER. FOR SALT WE WILL NEED AT LEAST TWO MEETINGS TO DEVELOP OUR RETURNING POSITION. FOR MBFR WE MAY ONLY NEED ONE. WE HAVE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED A MBFR MEETING FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, AND A SALT MEETING FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28. WE HAVE ALSO SCHEDULED PRELIMINARY MEETINGS WITH YOU BEFORE EACH OF THE VERIFICATION PANEL MEETINGS.

WORKING GROUP PREPARATIONS FOR BOTH MEETINGS ARE PROCEEDING REASONABLY WELL. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE ISSUES, ESPECIALLY IN SALT, ARE COMPLICATED AND WILL REQUIRE A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF YOUR TIME TO PREPARE FOR THE VERIFICATION PANEL MEETINGS.

GIVEN THE VERY TIGHT SCHEDULE YOU WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE IN THE FEW DAYS AFTER YOU RETURN AND BEFORE YOU GO ON LEAVE, WE FEEL WE SHOULD OBTAIN YOUR PERSONAL APPROVAL BEFORE SCHEDULING THESE MEETINGS. THE SALT MEETING WOULD BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL -- THOUGH YOU MAY WANT MORE TIME TO WORK ON SCHLESINGER AND MODRER. THE MBFR MEETING COULD SLIP INTO JANUARY WITHOUT SUBSTANTIAL PROBLEM. ONE OTHER CONSIDERATION IS THAT THE VERIFICATION PANEL PRINCIPLES HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT STAYING IN TOWN OVER THE HOLIDAYS UNLESS YOU DEFINETELY PLAN TO HAVE THE MEETINGS. WE VERY STRONGLY RECOMMEND FIRM PLANS FOR AT LEAST THE SALT MEETING. WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE.

MORI/CDF C03342184

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS

SEC FILES

END OF MESSAGE.

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